

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MARCELLA BARNES

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the achievements of Marcella Barnes, the CEO and founder of Pink Hardhat Construction, LLC.

Ms. Barnes, who was raised in New York, began her career immediately after she graduated from high school and went on to attend college in California. Once she moved to California, she had a dream to enlist in the military and make a difference in people's lives. Upon enlisting, she was then stationed in Maryland, which is also where she opened her first business, Pink Hardhat Construction, LLC. However, once her construction business started to gain traction, Ms. Barnes also noticed a need for providing housing to homeless veterans. As a veteran herself, she recognized and understood the challenges that homeless veterans face in obtaining quality, affordable housing. Ms. Barnes decided to do something about it and opened another business, Our Pink Doors, LLC, which provides shelter for homeless veterans. On July 9, 2017, she held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the grand opening of her first veterans' home.

Ms. Barnes is also a member of the National Congress of Black Women and the Maryland Minority Contractors Association.

Therefore, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Marcella Barnes for her work.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SAFE COMMUNITIES ACT OF 2017

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2017

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, more than 10 years ago, following Hurricane Katrina, then-Rep. Curt Weldon and I introduced the bipartisan Safe Communities Act. Today, with wildfires burning in my state and Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and José ravaging the Southeast, the ability to prepare for, withstand, and quickly recover from disasters is an essential component of livable communities. That's why I am reintroducing the Safe Communities Act, which will give state and local governments the tools to help them plan for and reduce the impact of these events.

Federal investments in natural disasters should include prevention and mitigation as well as response and recovery. In fact, investment in prevention can save money in the long-term. Research by an independent group of experts in 2005 found that every dollar invested in actions to reduce disaster losses saves the nation about \$4 in future costs. We

all agree that by planning for the future communities can help prevent damage and save money, but rarely do we do it.

The Safe Communities Act will create a new grant program to support state, local and regional planning activities aimed at reducing threats posed by natural and human-caused disasters. Grant-eligible projects under this program include comprehensive risk assessments and inventories of critical infrastructure, land-use planning for natural hazards and terrorism security, updates to building codes and development of new urban design techniques for risk-reduction. The bill will also create a research program to investigate the best practices in comprehensive land use and community planning aimed at reducing threats posed by natural hazards and acts of tenor.

The number of people who live in harm's way is expanding dramatically, and more properties and more lives are at risk from both natural and human-caused disasters. The associated increases in rising disaster recovery costs impact us all. I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure communities have the resources they need to help prepare for future natural disasters.

WISHING A HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY TO MS. PEARL GENEVIEVE MOORE

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2017

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Ms. Pearl Genevieve Moore of Preston, WA on her 100th birthday today.

Pearl was born in Washington State on September 18, 1917 to parents Hulda and Olaf Carlson, who immigrated to Preston, Washington from Varmland, Sweden. Pearl graduated from Broadway High School in 1935.

In 1941, Pearl married the love of her life, Mr. Marshall Moore. They were married for 56 beautiful years.

Pearl credits her wonderful life to God's grace, her ancestors, and a busy social life. She is actively involved in her church community and many have been blessed by her hospitality and care over the years. Pearl also loves to garden and enjoys eating lots of vegetables, peanuts, and chocolate.

Through her big heart and dedication to her community, Pearl has continued to make Preston a better place throughout her lifetime. I join with her family, friends, and the Eighth District in congratulating her on this special occasion and wishing her a wonderful birthday.

16TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARDS

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2017

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fire and Rescue and EMS personnel who have provided distinguished service to the people of Florida's 16th Congressional District.

As first responders, fire departments and emergency medical service teams are summoned on short notice to serve their respective communities. Oftentimes, they arrive at scenes of great adversity and trauma, to which they reliably bring strength and composure. These brave men and women spend hundreds of hours in training so that they are prepared when they get "the call."

In 2012, I established the 16th District Congressional Fire and Rescue and EMS Awards to honor officers, departments, and units for outstanding achievement.

On behalf of the people of Florida's 16th District, it is my privilege to congratulate the following winners, who were selected this year by an independent committee comprised of a cross section of current and retired Fire and Rescue personnel living in the district:

Manatee County Community Paramedicine Program was chosen to receive the Congressional Unit Citation Award;

Training Officer Christopher Stark of the Hillsborough County Fire Rescue was chosen to receive the Congressional Dedication and Professionalism Award;

Chief Dennis Jones of the Hillsborough County Fire Rescue was chosen to receive the Congressional Career Service Award; and

Division Chief-Fire Marshal Tammy Zurla was chosen to receive the Congressional Dedication and Professionalism Award.

CONGRATULATING THE MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID PERSONNEL

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel (MASFAP) on their 50th Anniversary on November 7, 2017. The Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid was founded on April 3, 1967, starting with a steering committee of only five members. Today, MASFAP has grown to 83 schools and over 790 members. This anniversary will provide an opportunity to recognize their continued partnerships and highlight the need for affordable post-secondary education.

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